

From: Kevin Hubbard
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I'm disappointed. Yes I live in Washington State, yes many of my friends and fellow co-workers work for Microsoft. For their sake, Washington State sake, and USA economy sake, I should be happy that Bill and Co only got a mild rist slapping, but I'm not.

Microsoft's business practices are monopolistic, which is surely wrong from a good vs. evil perspective as they put little companies out of business.

What really makes me angry about Microsoft and this ruling is that their monopolistic business practices stifles innovation in the technical arena which I am dependent on for a living. Microsoft is on the verge of taking over access to the web after shutting Netscape nearly out of business. Internet Explorer has been forced onto 90% of the PCs in the land. Now the web-site norm is to support InternetExplorer as a requirement. We're starting to see many web-sites no longer work properly with the underdogs (Netscape, Mozilla, etc.). Just like MS-Word before it, nobody loses their job making their web-site talk to InternetExplorer and not Konqueror or Mozilla or some other browser. InternetExplorer is not available for open-source OS's such as Linux. Its not even available for Sun Solaris. Thats a problem. Why is Microsoft giving away InternetExplorer for MS-Windows users but not providing InternetExplorer for alternate OS's, either in compiled binary or source code? Simple. This emerging strangle-hold on web-browsing is positioning alternate OS's out of business. Thats bad.

Regards,

Kevin Hubbard
Senior Electronic Design Engineer.
Issaquah, Washington.